GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2961
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2008
SMUGGLING OF FERTILIZERS
Naik Shri Shripad Yasso;Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale smuggling of fertilizers from India to Bangladesh and Nepal is taking place;

(b) if so, the names of the States from where the smuggling is being done;

(c) the estimated amount of loss being borne annually as a result thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to check smuggling of fertilizers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES(SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) to (d): No such report of smuggling of fertilizers from India to Bangladesh and Nepal has been received from the State Governments. However, State Governments have been advised by the Department of Fertilizers to keep a vigil and to check smuggling of fertilizers from India to other neighboring countries through land and sea routes.

Similarly Union Home Ministry has also alerted Border guarding forces viz., Border Security Force (BSF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Assam Rifles and Sashastra Seema Bal and Coast Guard to maintain strict vigilance on the borders to curb smuggling of fertilizers. Further Union Home Secretary has also addressed the Chief Secretaries to the Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal to sensitize the authorities concerned to curb the smuggling of fertilizers into the neighboring countries.